

## NHCETF Meeting Minutes for January 14, 2013

**Present:** Caroline Dumont, Sarah Baird, Kenny Foscue, Hugh Davis, Letty McPhedran, and new members: Richard LoPresti, Rep. Dave Yaccarino, Dr. David Cooper  
guest: Sheri Borrelli

**Introductions:** We learned that Richard LoPresti was raised in North Haven and is Chairman of the North Haven Economic Development Commission. He is employed in community and economic development at UI and served for 30 years in economic development at the state level.

David Cooper is the Director of the Center for a Sustainable Future at Gateway Community College here in North Haven. His students graduate with NABEP certification and many skill certificates in solar, geothermal and building sustainable facilities. He is interested in the process of deconstructing materials for future use. He is working with Wesleyan College to develop high school programs so students will leave high school with some of these skills and will be ready for the next steps at the college level. He would like to develop these programs for after school and summer study in North Haven. He suggested the US Dept. of Energy website for good information.

Rep. Dave Yaccarino serves North Haven at the State Legislature and has recently been appointed to the Energy Committee.

Sheri Borelli works in 17 Connecticut communities as UI's outreach to inform them of the value of reducing energy consumption and of signing the CEFIA pledge. She is a member of the Economic Development Commission in Hamden.

**CEFIA Semi Annual Report:** The reports are due the end of January and at the end of July. Hugh will write the report but he asked us to fill him in on what has happened in these 6 months.

Richard would like a few of the recent reports, which Hugh will send to him.

**Meeting with Selectman Freda:** Sarah had sent a summary of the meeting to TF members. Letty will send the Chris Fogg report to the new members. Sheri will train interns to work on benchmarking from 2008, including fuel usage but then keeping it up to date will be up to the Task Force. Benchmarking identifies work that needs to be done. Sarah and Caroline will get the training for this. Richard brought up an important observation from his work on another commission. Mr. Freda asked us to screen the options and bring him the priorities. We are to identify opportunities and come to meetings with clear ideas. He is asking for our help. Financing might be changed in 2014 so work should begin soon on the energy efficient measures.

In this process Richard recognized that we will need information from some of the town workers and we will ask for help. We will all critique and add to the Municipal Action Plan Draft that UI has provided, discussed later in the meeting.

The next meeting with Mr. Freda, the Task Force and representatives from IU is Wed. April 3 at 10am. Future quarterly meetings will be in July, October and January.

**History of the NHCETF:** During a review of the TF for the new members, the question of whether it would be better to be a commission arose. We are not included in the town charter and although volunteers are formally appointed, there is no term of office. We reviewed the clean energy sign-up process, the success of gaining the 22 free solar panels on NHHS, the forums and movies we've offered, and our initial push to write newspaper articles to inform the public. David brought up that there are now nine PACE communities in Connecticut and North Haven is not one. Jessica Baily is the person speaking to towns about this program.

Sheri mentioned that she can assist with a "launch", and, for instance put out some press on leading by example, linking it to clean energy. Perhaps include community leaders who have had audits, and followed through with the audit suggestions, and how much they have saved.

**Municipal Energy Plan.** At the meeting with Mr. Freda, TF members were given UI's Town of North Haven Municipal Action Plan (Draft-Nov.2012) . Sheri will send this to us online in a format we can add to and alter. We were asked to evaluate it, and add our ideas. She suggested we email her questions about it, and she will send the answers to all of us. At our next two meetings we should work hard on this to be prepared for our April meeting with Mr. Freda.

**Need for young folk:** Richard suggested trying to get some high school students as members of the TF, with the obvious benefits. .

**Need for Chronology of our work:** Richard also suggested writing a chronology of our work since Feb. 2007. Sarah will start on this and we will all add to it.

The next meeting is Monday, February 11, 2013 at 7pm at the North Haven Rec Center.

Submitted by Letty McPhedran